

Application No. 10/666,048  
Response dated January 24, 2008  
Reply to Office Action of April 6, 2007

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Please amend page 10, line 32 to page 11, line 7 to read as follows:

Such an electro thermal fluidized bed furnace is adapted to be used in a novel process for continuously heat treating of fine particulate matter, such as carbon black material, by continuously introducing a non-reactive fluidizing gas through the nozzles of the furnace at the pre-determined rate, continuously introducing untreated carbon black material through the feed pipe of the furnace at a predetermined rate so that it forms a fluidized bed, energizing the electrode so as to heat the fluidized bed, and continuously collecting the treated carbon black from the discharge pipe. ~~The treatment process used for thermally modifying the carbon blacks of the present invention is disclosed in its entirety in U.S. patent application, entitled a "Method and Apparatus For Heat Treatment of Fine Particulates In An Electrothermal Fluized Bed Furnace," bearing serial no. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, assigned to Superior Graphite Co. The entire contents of this patent application are incorporated herein by reference thereto.~~